

Application # 10/725,041
Office Action Response dated January 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated October 6, 2005

PATENT
P-6059

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended; no new matter has been added.

Claims 9, 10, and 14-23 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-8 and 11-14 are pending in the application.

Specification Objection

The Examiner objected to the abstract of the disclosure because it exceeded 150 words.

The specification has been amended, to address this objection, so that the abstract of the disclosure does not exceed 150 words. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10 and 11 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the recognition of allowability of the claims.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of intervening claim 9 and allowable claim 10. Claim 11 is now dependent on amended claim 1 and therefore is also allowable.

Applicant submits that this amendment fully addresses this objection.

Claims Rejection – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-9 and 12-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,659,983 to Crawford et al. ("Crawford").

Of the claims rejected, claims 9, and 14 to 23 have been cancelled. Amended claim 1 is independent with the remaining claims dependent thereon.

Applicant submits that this rejection is rendered moot in view of the current amendment.

In view of the remarks and amendments herein, applicant submits the claims are patentably distinct over the prior art and allowable in form.

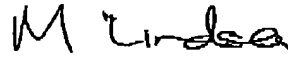
Application # 10/725,041
Office Action Response dated January 6, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated October 6, 2005

PATENT
P-6059

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-1666.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments relating to the present application, he or she is respectfully invited to contact Applicant's agent at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Lindsey
Registration No. 52,515
Agent for Applicant(s)
201 847 6262

Dated: January 6, 2006.

Becton, Dickinson and Company
1 Becton Drive, MC110
Franklin Lakes, New Jersey 07417-1880

Doc# 102941v1